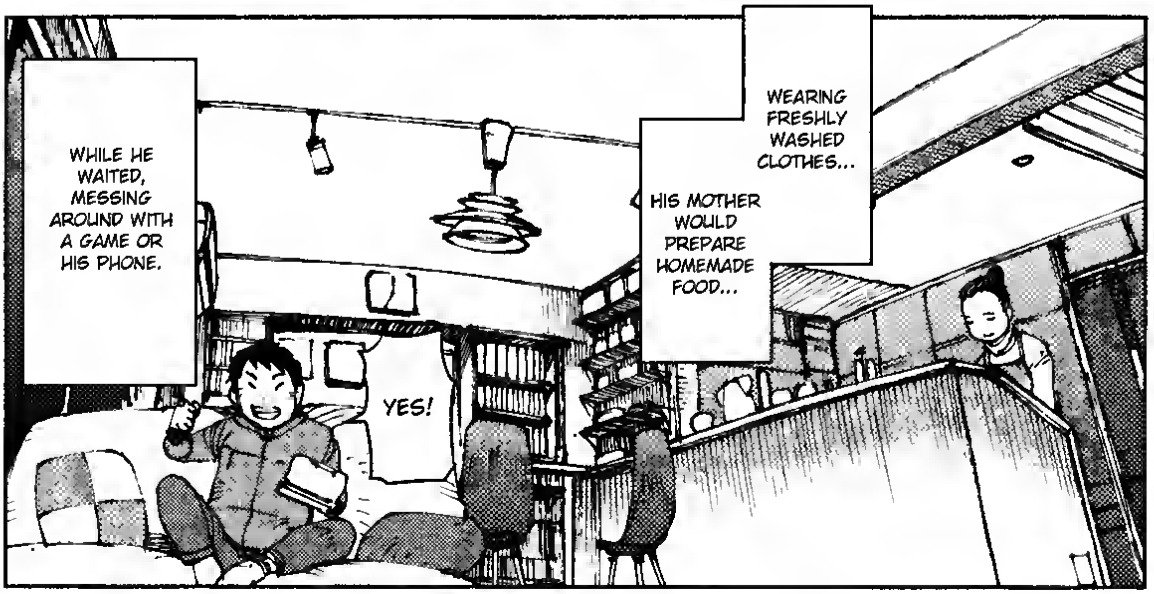
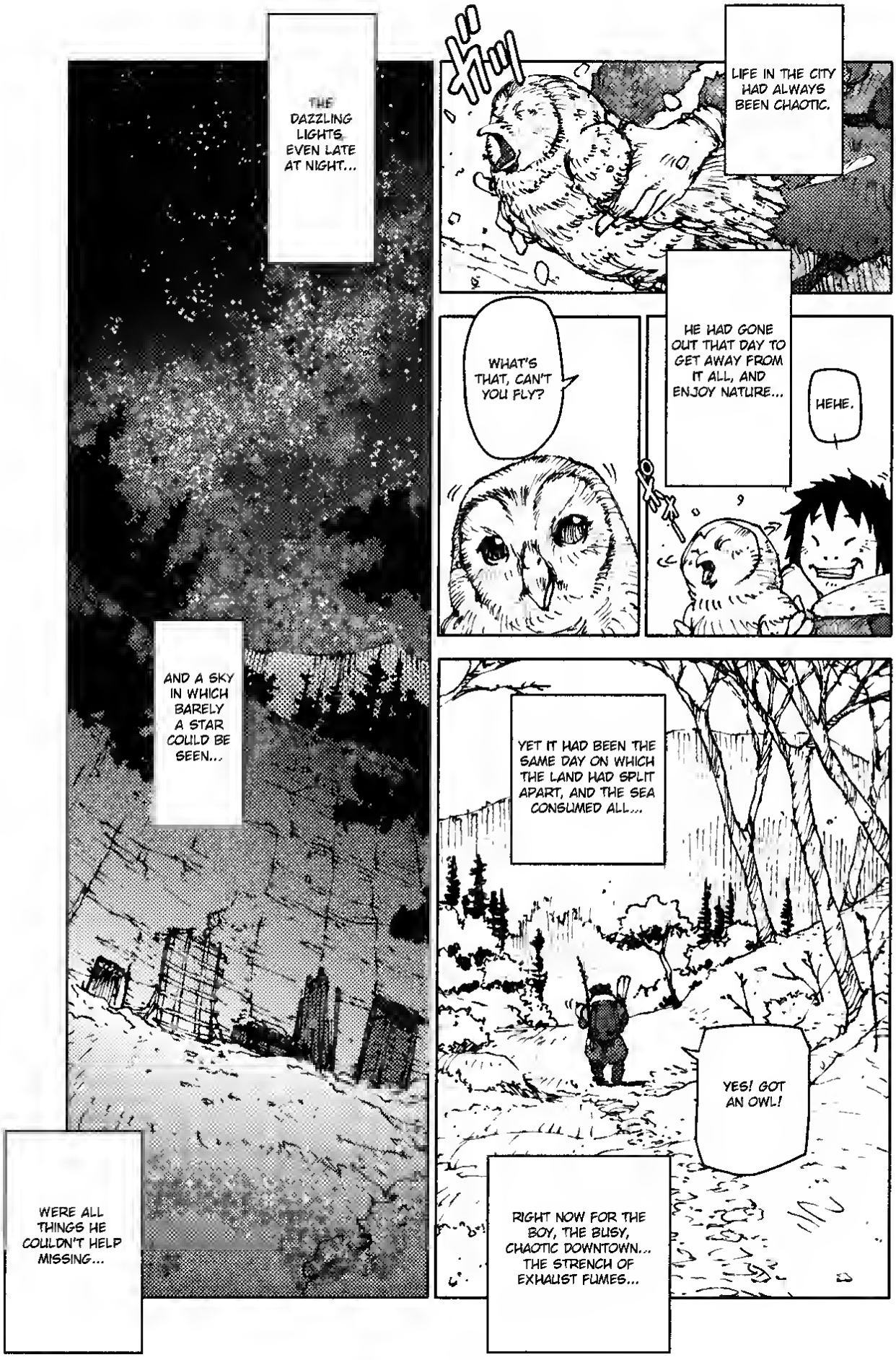
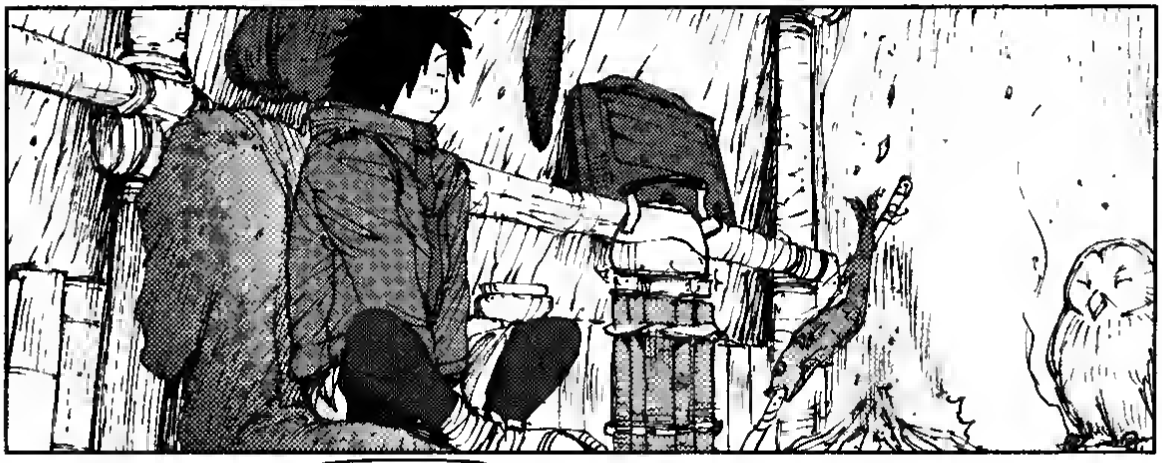
WAS OUT IN THE COLD, BEING DOGGED BY HIS NEED TO SECURE SOME FOOD.
HAVING ONCE MORE LOST HIS EMERGENCY SUPPLIES TO THE RATS, THE BOY...
OI OI OI. HOLD ON A SEC.
USUALLY DURING WINTER HE WOULD'VE BEEN UNDER AN ELECTIRC LIGHT, IN HIS WELL AIR CONDITIONED ROOM.


WHILE HE WAITED, MESSING AROUND WITH A GAME OR HIS PHONE.
YES!
HIS MOTHER WOULD PREPARE HOMEMADE FOOD...
WEARING FRESHLY WASHED CLOTHES...

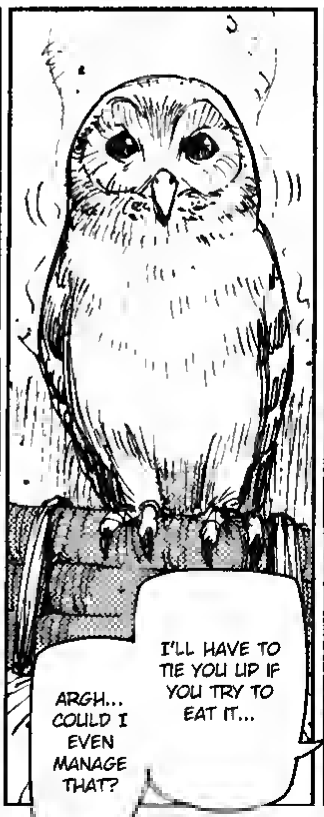
HE'D NEVER FELT PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR SUCH... COMMON-PLACE MATTERS.
AT THE PRESS OF A SWITCH, THE ELECTRIC WOULD TURN ON, WITH THE TWIST OF A TAP WATER WOULD COME OUT...
COLD...
WERE HE TO SUFFER ANY ILLNESS OR INJURY, HE COULD SIMPLY VISIT THE DOCTOR AND OBTAIN SOME MEDICINE.
YET IT HAD BEEN A WORLD OF DREAMS, BUILT UPON THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF HIS FOREBEARS.
HM...
GEEZ
?!

バサバサ
HEH...?
AAAAAAARGH!
ドカッ
バササ
A... AN OWL?
ズバババ
...

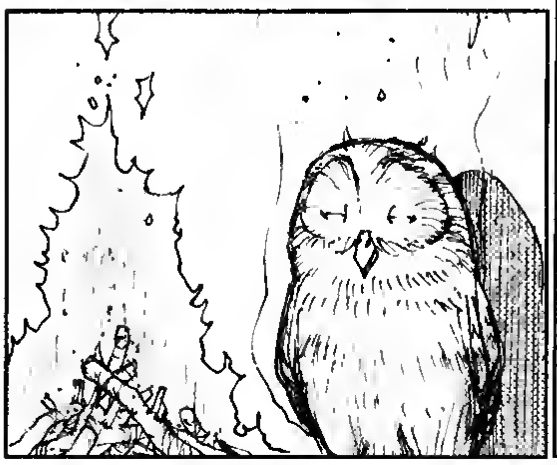

THE DAZZLING LIGHTS EVEN LATE AT NIGHT...
AND A SKY IN WHICH BARELY A STAR COULD BE SEEN...
WERE ALL THINGS HE COULDN'T HELP MISSING...
LIFE IN THE CITY HAD ALWAYS BEEN CHAOTIC.
WHAT'S THAT, CAN'T YOU FLY?
HE HAD GONE OUT THAT DAY TO GET AWAY FROM IT ALL, AND ENJOY NATURE...
HEHE.
YET IT HAD BEEN THE SAME DAY ON WHICH THE LAND HAD SPLIT APART, AND THE SEA CONSUMED ALL...
YES! GOT AN OWL!
RIGHT NOW FOR THE BOY, THE BUSY, CHAOTIC DOWNTOWN... THE STRENCH OF EXHAUST FUMES...



THOUGH WHAT DOES AN OWL EVEN EAT?


ARGH... COULD I EVEN MANAGE THAT?
I'LL HAVE TO TIE YOU UP IF YOU TRY TO EAT IT...

COME TO THINK OF IT. THIS IS THE FIRST NON-FISH ANIMAL I'VE CAUGHT ALIVE.



ARGH?!
SO YOU CAN FLY?!
EH, EH, EEEH?!
WELL IF YOU CAN FLY THEN...
WHY DID YOU FALL DOWN BACK THERE...?
IT WOULD SEEM AS THOUGH WATER FROM ICE THAWING HAD SOAKED THE OWL'S WINGS, RESTRICTING ITS MOVEMENT.
THAT SURE SHOCKED ME.

I SEE...
WELL WHATEVER.
I CAN ALWAYS CONSIDER YOU IF I RUN OUT OF FOOD.
IT'S ALREADY BEEN HALF A MONTH SINCE THE NEW YEAR...
TIME FLIES...
HM...
ﾊﾟｷ
ﾊﾟｷ
ﾊﾟｷ

FUAAAH!
I'LL NEED TO AIR THE ROOM.
AAH... CRAP.
I LEFT THE FIRE ON AND FELL ASLEEP.
RATS!
!
A ROD, A ROD, A ROD, A ROOOD! I'LL HIT YOU WITH A ROD!
GAH?!
ZOOO

HEH...?
OOH...
パクパク
FOR REAL?!
ゴクン
キュルルルル

LOOKS LIKE THE OTHERS...
W... WOAH.
ドッドッ
パクパク
NOT BAD YOU!
ALL FLED.
AH, A NAME!
I HAVE TO GIVE YOU A NAME!
...
OOH, LET'S BE FRIENDS! WE'LL BE FRIENDS FROM TODAY ON!
ハァ

NOT BAD! PRETTY COOL INFACT!
FRIDAY THE OWL!
EH.
HOW'S FRIDAY SOUND?
FRIDAY!
TODAY'S FRIDAY SO...
ALRIGHT... WE'LL COMMEMORATE THE DAY WE MET...
I LOVE, LOVE, LOOOVE IT. IT'S GREAT, GREAT!
YES, YES.
ホー ホー ホー
ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT.
DO YOU LIKE IT, FRIDAY?
THE PLEASURE'S ALL MINE, FRIDAY.
IT WAS A RATHER SELF SERVING STORY